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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

AT RICHMOND, JULY 10, 1998

APPLICATION OF

Z-TEL COMMUNICATIONS  
OF VIRGINIA, INC.

CASE NO. PUC980093

For a certificate of public  
convenience and necessity to  
provide local exchange  
telecommunication service

ORDER FOR NOTICE AND HEARING

On June 19, 1998, Z-Tel Communications of Virginia, Inc. ("Z-Tel" or "Applicant") filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide local exchange telecommunications service throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW UPON CONSIDERATION of the application, the Commission is of the opinion that Z-Tel's application should be docketed, that the Applicant should give notice to the public of its application; that the Commission Staff should conduct an investigation into the reasonableness of the application and present its findings in a Staff report; and that a public

hearing should be convened to receive evidence relevant to Z-Tel's application.

Accordingly, IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) This case is docketed and assigned Case No. PUC980093.

(2) Copies of the application are available for public inspection between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or can be ordered from Z-Tel's counsel, Brian D. Hughes, Esquire, Kelley Drye & Warren, 1200 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036.

(3) A public hearing for the purpose of receiving evidence relevant to Z-Tel's application is scheduled for September 16, 1998, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia.

(4) On or before July 24, 1998, the Applicant shall complete publication of the following notice, which may be published as classified advertising, in newspapers having general circulation throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia:

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF AN APPLICATION  
BY Z-TEL COMMUNICATIONS OF VIRGINIA, INC.,  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND  
NECESSITY TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE  
CASE NO. PUC980093

On June 19, 1998, Z-Tel Communications of Virginia, Inc. ("Z-Tel" or "Applicant") filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity ("certificate") requesting authority to provide local exchange telecommunications service throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A public hearing on Z-Tel's application will be convened on September 16, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's second floor courtroom located in the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, to hear evidence relevant to its application for a certificate to provide local exchange service. Copies of the application are available for public inspection between the hours of 8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. in the Commission's Document Control Center located on the first floor of the Tyler Building, 1300 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, or can be ordered from Z-Tel's counsel, Brian D. Hughes, Esquire, Kelley Drye & Warren, 1200 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036.

Any person desiring to comment in writing on Z-Tel's application may do so by directing such comments on or before August 14, 1998, to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218. Written comments must refer to Case No. PUC980093.

Any person desiring to make a statement at the public hearing concerning Z-Tel's application need only appear in the Commission's second floor courtroom at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the hearing and

identify himself or herself as a public witness to the Commission's Bailiff.

Any person who expects to submit evidence, cross-examine witnesses, or otherwise participate in the proceedings as a Protestant pursuant to Rule 4:6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure should promptly obtain a copy of the Order for Notice and Hearing from the Clerk of the Commission for full details of the procedural schedule and instructions on participation.

Individuals with disabilities who require an accommodation to participate in the hearing may contact the Commission at least seven (7) days before the scheduled hearing date at 1-800-552-7945 (voice) or 1-804-371-9206 (TDD).

All written communications to the Commission concerning Z-Tel's application should be directed to William J. Bridge, Clerk, State Corporation Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218, and should refer to Case No. PUC980093.

Z-TEL COMMUNICATIONS OF VIRGINIA, INC.

(5) On or before July 24, 1998, Applicant shall give notice of its application to each local exchange telephone carrier certificated in Virginia by personal delivery or by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the customary place of business or residence of the person served. A current list of those carriers and their addresses is attached as Appendix A.

(6) On or before July 30, 1998, the Applicant shall prefile with the Commission an original and twenty (20) copies

of any additional direct testimony it intends to present at the public hearing. Copies shall also be served on any person who files a Notice of Protest.

(7) Any person desiring to comment in writing on Z-Tel's application may do so by directing such comments on or before August 14, 1998, to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218. Comments must refer to Case No. PUC980093. Any persons desiring to make a statement at the public hearing concerning the application need only appear in the Commission's second floor courtroom at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the hearing and identify himself or herself to the Bailiff as a public witness.

(8) On or before August 7, 1998, any person desiring to participate as a Protestant as defined in Rule 4:6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure ("Rules") shall file an original and twenty (20) copies of a Notice of Protest as provided in Rule 5:16(a) and shall serve a copy of the same on Z-Tel's counsel, Brian D. Hughes, Esquire, Kelley Drye & Warren, 1200 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036.

(9) Any person who expects to submit evidence, cross-examine witnesses, or otherwise participate in the proceeding as a Protestant pursuant to Rule 4:6 shall file on or before August 20, 1998, an original and twenty (20) copies of its Protest with

the Clerk of the Commission at the address listed above, referring to Case No. PUC980093, and shall on the same day mail a copy thereof to Z-Tel's counsel, Brian D. Hughes, Esquire, Kelley Drye & Warren, 1200 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036, and to any other Protestants. The Protest shall set forth (i) a precise statement of the interest of the Protestant in the proceeding; (ii) a full and clear statement of the facts which the Protestant is prepared to prove by competent evidence; and (iii) a statement of the specific relief sought and the legal basis therefor. Any corporate entity that wishes to submit evidence, cross-examine witnesses, or otherwise participate as a Protestant must be represented by legal counsel in accordance with the requirement of Rule 4:8 of the Commission's Rules.

(10) On or before August 20, 1998, each Protestant shall file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and twenty (20) copies of the prepared testimony and exhibits the Protestant intends to present at the hearing, and shall on the same day, mail a copy of the same to counsel for Z-Tel and other Protestants. Service upon counsel for Z-Tel shall be made at the address set forth above.

(11) The Commission Staff shall analyze the reasonableness of Z-Tel's application and present its findings in a Staff Report to be filed on or before September 3, 1998.

(12) On or before September 3, 1998, if necessary, the Commission Staff may file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and twenty (20) copies of any prepared testimony and exhibits it intends to present at the public hearing. A copy of the Staff direct testimony shall be mailed to the counsel for the Applicant and to each Protestant.

(13) On or before September 10, 1998, the Applicant shall file with the Clerk of the Commission an original and twenty (20) copies of any testimony it expects to introduce in rebuttal to any direct prefiled testimony of Staff and Protestants. A copy of the rebuttal testimony shall be mailed to Staff and each Protestant by overnight delivery.

(14) At the commencement of the hearing scheduled herein, Z-Tel shall provide to the Commission proof of the notice and service required by ordering paragraphs (3) and (4) herein.

(15) The Applicant shall respond to written interrogatories or data requests within ten (10) business days after the receipt of the same. Protestants shall provide to the Applicant, other Protestants and Staff any workpapers or documents used in preparation of their prefiled testimony, promptly upon request. Except as so modified, discovery shall be in accordance with Part IV of the Rules.